



HISTORY

In October 1999 we started to clean, clear and prepare a piece of land on Beqa Island, called Lawaki. It is situated on the south west corner of the Island, direct on the beach side. It is part of Sam's homeland and we could lease it from his clan.

We erected a wooden house for temporary living. The water from the well, on 100mt above sea level, has been directed into two 5000lt fibre glass water tanks and then further down to the beach.

New Years Eve 1999/2000 we spent at Lawaki Beach, hoping and wishing that our dreams will come true and all will work out well.

We still lived in Pacific Harbour and used our home as a base for all the organisations necessary like: communication, depot for material, accommodating helpers and many more. Sam worked on the Island during the week. He organised countless staff, transportation, trips, material, food, paperwork and any thing necessary for the project.

The Main Bure has been completed except for the interior in January 2001, and we moved from Pacific Harbour to Beqa, with all our stuff including 6 dogs and 3 cows. The Main Bure got completed and plans for the future guest accommodation had to be done.

In 2002 we built the two Private Beach Bures and the Dorm/Family Bure. Also our Website went online. It was maintained in Suva, since we only had a small spot in front of the Main Bure with a fairly reasonable reception.

After 3,5 years of shifting, building, x trips from and to the mainland, a lot of bureaucracy: we officially opened Lawaki Beach House Ltd. for business in April 2003. We also bought the Lawaki Delight, our covered aluminium boat.

2005 was our good business year with an increase of the occupancy rate of 22%, compare to 18% in 2003.



In the 2006 Edition of Lonely Planet, we received a write up as “Authors Choice”, which was an honour and very helpful for the young business.

2007 in March, we have got Internet reception in Lawaki. The mobile Phones could be used well at any corner of the compound. What an improvement! Also a Sky TV disk was installed on the roof. Due to a bad storm in July, our Fibre Glass boat has tipped over and was severely damaged on hull and the new engine.

By the end of the year, we could realise a dream by adding a solar system and using the generator as back up only. We suddenly had the luxury of a fridge and small freezer. The Lawaki Delight was extended for 1,5mts under Sam’s supervision. It allows us to carry up to 12 people now.

The two cyclones in 2008 have damaged our seawall badly and a few of Sam’s farm patches. During that season we have received the “Fiji Excellence in Tourism Award as Budget Accommodation on Islands”. We enjoyed the recognition in the local industry and feel honoured.

The hurricane in January 2009 has made it impossible for the passenger vessel to visit Lawaki for the Fire Walking and Meke performance. The Vessel then came in February the 3rd year in a row.

2010 December Hurricane had a severe impact on the close by villages Naceva and Naiseuseu. Many of the homes, including the school have been damaged or even blown away. We could not hold tears looking at all the damages in our gardens, but we were blessed: buildings and boats were safe and without any damage.

2011 we are starting our 9th year in business. We are present in Facebook. Our Website is under construction and will be launched soon.